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MYSURU Tuesday 17th June 2025
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Five luxury cars seized for tax evasion in city

RTO conducts crackdown to collect about Rs. 4 crore tax

Two cars released after collecting Rs. 1.78 crore road tax

The seized luxury cars at RTO West Office on JLB Road in city.

Mysuru, June 17 (RK&VNS)- Officials from the Regional Transport Office (West) have seized five luxury vehicles for allegedly evading road tax on Sunday. Two Mercedes-Benz, an Audi Q4, a Porsche and a Rolls-Royce were seized for evading road tax, totalling up to Rs. 4 crore.

According to Regional Transport Officer (Mysuru West) C.N. Ramachandra, a special team from the Department of Transport, Bengaluru, along with the RTOs (Mysuru East and West), conducted a special operation on Sunday until 10.30 pm to seize the vehicles.

"We had been monitoring the movements of these vehicles and had sought permission from the head office to conduct the seizure of the vehicle. Only after we received instructions from the head office and the arrival of a team from Bengaluru, we conducted the raids," he said.

According to RTO officials, all five vehicles, owned by Mysureans, were registered in Puducherry, where the road tax is considerably less compared to other States as it is a Union Territory.

Department of Transport in Karnataka charges 28 percent GST plus 22 percent conveyance charges on the ex-showroom price of the car and for the total amount obtained, 18 percent Road Tax and 11 percent cess is charged at the time of registration for cars priced more than Rs. 20 lakh.

Many of the vehicle owners, to evade paying a huge amount towards road tax and cess charges, get their vehicles registered at Puducherry. The officials said, vehicles registered in other States are permitted to be used in Karnataka for only 11 months; thereafter, the owners will have to pay road tax as per the RTO guidelines and must also re-register their vehicles.

(See CARS on page 7)

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Incessant rains in Kodagu swell rivers, disrupt life

The flooded Triveni Sangama at Bhagamandala in Kodagu this morning.

Kushalnagar, June 17 (AG & BCT)- Kodagu has been experiencing heavy rainfall accompanied by strong winds since Sunday, leading to a significant rise in water levels across the district. The Triveni Sangama in Bhagamandala has reached full capacity for the second time this monsoon. Overflowing waters have inundated the Bhagamandala – Napoklu stretch, but vehicle movement remains unaffected thanks to the flyover in the area. Cauvery and Harangi Rivers are flowing above danger marks at various places.

(See KODAGU on page 7)

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STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Tuesday 17th June 2025

Nominated to Karnataka Pradesh Banjara Seva Sangha

M. Sundar

Kaveri Krishna

Mysuru, June 17- In recognition of his services, M. Sundar, President of Banjara Seva Sangha, Mysuru, has been nominated as Mysuru District President of Karnataka Pradesh Banjara (Lambani) Seva Sangha.

He was administered the oath of office by High Court Judge Venkatesh Naik at a function held on June 8 at Banjara Bhavan in Bengaluru, in the presence of Karnataka Pradesh Banjara Sangha President N.R. Naik and General Secretary H.B. Sindhia Naik.

Similarly, Kaveri Krishna Naik, who till now was serving as the Treasurer of Mysuru Banjara Seva Sangha, has been nominated as the State Convenor of Mysuru Region. Judge Venkatesh Naik administered the oath of office to Kaveri also.

All India Banjara Seva Sangha National President Umesh Jadhav, Deputy Speaker of Legislative Assembly Rudrapa Lamani and others were present.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

SILENT BLACK BOX: ***As the Air India flight taxied on the Ahmedabad runway, the jet would have gargled fuel to clear its throat, reminders to keep the seat belt fastened would have sounded like familiar chants in the pressurised cabin, a few passengers would have whispered their customary travel prayers, some would have argued that Heathrow offers better connectivity to central London than Gatwick, somebody would have recalled their last flight to Heathrow from Delhi and wondered if the Thames would appear on the Gatwick route.***

The etiquette-conscious would have deliberated on the correct response to 'how do you do?' in UK, some would have joked that Brits wouldn't mind if people said 'how're ya doin'?' to the King as long as they had waited British-ly in a queue to address the monarch, some laughter would have strummed seat belts when those averse to culinary adventures relished with desi ghee the prospect of ordering cholay-bhature in the former Raj HQ.

A first-time visitor to London would have shown exploRational savvy and proclaimed that London Bridge has 'cliché' splashed all over it like betel-leaf stains and Charles Dickens Museum is the place for sophisticates, their seat neighbour would have commented that Delhi taxiwallahs' directional acumen is just as legendary as London's Black Cab drivers', some passengers would have started a battle of wills with time itself to hug their loved ones sooner than determined by the mundane arrival schedule, a few would have gone back in time to worry about not switching off all their home lights.

And then as the jet engine's gargling began smoothing into the war cry of human ingenuity against gravity, even some frequent fliers would have looked out of their windows to marvel at the audacity of a toothpaste-tube-shaped machine to rescue hundreds of people at once from the solidity of routines, passengers would likely not have known that the plane was losing altitude, would probably not have realised that the pilots were overriding instinctual fear with professional focus, the pilots would have been using the muscle of their conscience to strengthen their trained hands to do everything they could to save the passengers in their care and save the metrics that make us all human: love, ambition, excitement, and the faith in ourselves to plan for the next day. Black boxes don't record those metrics.

— Kannan Somasundaram in The Times of India

NEWS SPARKLERS

3-inch-tall, this might be world's shortest dog

Ontario: An Ontario woman said she believes her Yorkshire terrier, standing at just 3 inches tall and weighing less than a pound, might be the smallest dog in the world.

Kim Passero of Loretto said her dog, Lulu, has a lot of energy and spunk in a small package.

The current world's shortest dog, a chihuahua named Pearl, stands at 3.59 inches tall. Passero said Lulu is shorter at only 3 inches tall, but the Yorkie is only 4 months old, and Guinness World Records won't accept official measurements until she is at least 1 year old.

Fake flight attendant flies free 120 times

New York: A 35-year-old American man has been found guilty of impersonating a flight attendant at least 120 times in order to avoid having to pay for plane tickets.

Federal prosecutors accused Tirone Alexander of entering the secure area of an airport under false pretences and committing wire fraud at least 120 times between 2018 and 2024. The 35-year-old man reportedly took advantage of a common airline policy that allows flight attendants and pilots from other airlines to fly for free.

Alexander, who allegedly had worked as a flight attendant for regional airlines between 2013 and 2015, would go to various airline websites and check the "flight attendant" option during the online check-in process. The form required applicants to provide their employer, date of hire and badge number. Alexander used falsified information that apparently no one bothered to check.

Tirone Alexander has been found guilty of four counts of wire fraud (each carrying a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison) and one count of fraudulently accessing a restricted area of the airport, which carries a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Exercise during pregnancy is important, Improves blood circulation and keeps joints relaxed.

By Dr. Shaheen Akhtar - Consultant- Obstetrics & Gynaecology - Manipal Hospital, Mysore

manipalhospitals LIFE'S ON

**** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature***

Elected unopposed to Mysore Varsity Employees Co-op. Society

Chikkajyothi

Prakash

Mysuru, June 17- P. Chikkajyothi has been elected unopposed as the new President of Mysore University Employees Co-operative Credit Society Ltd. recently. B. Prakash will continue as Vice-President, according to Society CEO D. Nanda Kishore.

Halakatti and Hadapada birth anniversaries

Mysuru, June 17 - Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Dr. P. Siddaraju said that the District Administration will be celebrating the birth anniversaries of Dr. Phakirappa Gurubasappa Halakatti on July 2 and Hadapada Appanna on July 22 at 11 am. Both the events will be held at Kiru Rangamandira in Kalamandira premises in city. Musical programme will be performed on both occasions by various troupes. Asst. Director of Kannada and Culture Dr. M.D. Sudarshan, District and Taluk-level officers, Karnataka Kavalu Pade District President Mohan Kumar, pro-Kannada activist Arvind Sharma, Karnataka Rajya Vokkaligara Vedike State President H.L. Yamuna and others were present at the meeting.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM	KABINI DAM	HARANGI DAM
Maximum **124.80 feet**	Maximum **2,284 feet**	Maximum **2,859 feet**
Today's level **110.95 feet**	Today's level **2,279.28 feet**	Today's level **2,850.89 feet**
Last year's level **86.75 feet**	Last year's level **2,263.78 feet**	Last year's level **2,828.01 feet**
Yesterday's level **109.60 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,277.10 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,851.78 feet**
Today's Inflow **16,936 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **20,168 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **6,481 cusecs**
Today's Outflow **951 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **10,000 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **18,000 cusecs**

REALLY...?

- ***The largest helicopter ever built is the Russian-made Mil Mi-26, which has a maximum takeoff weight of over 56,000 kg.***
- ***The world record for the highest altitude reached by a helicopter is 40,820 feet, set by pilot Didier Delsalle in 2002.***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Teacher: *If I lend your father Rs. 1,000 and he promised to pay me back Rs. 100 a month, how much will he owe me in five months?"*

John: *Rs. 1,000.*

Teacher: *You don't understand arithmetic, John?*

John: *You don't understand my father!*

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 86.02
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 116.80
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 23.42
1 Euro	= Rs. 99.48

VOICE OF THE READER

RO plants and Rs. 5 coin: Why not digital payment?

Sir,

The Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) has set up clean drinking water units (RO plants) across the city. However, the public can access water from these units only by inserting a new Rs. 5 coin.

As a result, many people end up asking passersby for coins or visiting nearby shops to exchange for a new Rs. 5 coin.

This is particularly inconvenient for senior citizens, who often collect drinking water from these points. For them, having to find a new coin each time can be awkward and burdensome.

Despite advancements in technology, MCC continues to rely on this outdated coin system. It would be far more convenient for the public if digital payment options like PhonePe, Google Pay or card swiping facilities were provided instead.

MCC authorities are urged to take appropriate action to modernise the system for the benefit of all residents.

—Vijendra Bookanakere
Kuvempunagar
5.6.2025

Danotsava 2025: Children donate essential items to old age home

Mysuru, June 17 (BCT)- The students of Mysore International School came together to celebrate 'Danotsava 2025', a festival of giving organised jointly by HEARt Organisation, Parth Bricks Industry (Jakkahalli, H.D. Kote) and Mysore International School, Mysuru.

The event began with a floral tribute to the portrait of Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar and the ceremonial lighting of the lamp.

In his keynote address, HEARt Organisation President Shivakumar called for reviving compassion and harmony in society. "Before the roots of humanity dry up, we must water and nurture them," he said, adding that HEARt has been holding Danotsava every year to instil the spirit of giving in young minds.

This year, Mysore International School was chosen to host the event, with students donating essential household items such as ragi, rice, pulses, soaps, toothbrushes and utensils.

Inaugurating the event, Dr. M.G.R. Urs credited the erstwhile ruler for introducing compulsory education for girls and establishing key institutions like Maharaja's College, K.R. Hospital and the KRS Dam.

Students performed Kannada songs and dances, spreading festive cheer. All donated items were handed over to Sevaayana Old Age Home, Mysuru.

School Principal Preethi Vincent presided. Among those present were Coordinator Sushma; Arya Amarnatharaje Urs, Founder-President of Mysore Anveshane Seva Trust; Deepu Urs, Owner of Parth Bricks; Dr. Mahabaleshwara Mamadapura, Rheumatologist; Ramesh, Secretary of HEARt; Shivalinga, Coordinator; Kendagannaswamy, President of Kannada Sahitya Parishat, Saragur; retired educator Swamy; Prabhamani and her team from Sevaayana and school staff and students.

Fundraiser celebrates cow welfare at Pinjrapole

Mysuru, June 17 (BCT)- The Jeev Daya Jain Charity (JDJC) organised 'Gomata ka Swamyvatsalya,' a fundraising event for the Mysore Pinjrapole Society, last Sunday. The programme highlighted cow welfare through interactive activities and traditional rituals.

Member of the erstwhile Mysore Royal Family Trishikha Kumari Wadiyar, who was the chief guest and Savitha Nagbhushan, Managing Trustee of PFA, guest of honour, inaugurated the event by performing a symbolic sutra removal ceremony and conducting a sacred cow puja.

Attendees engaged in calf feeding and cow cuddling, with organisers educating the public on the therapeutic benefits of bonding with cows.

Trishikha Kumari Wadiyar further emphasised environmental consciousness by planting Kalpavriksha saplings at the Pinjrapole premises.

The resident cows were treated to a specially curated meal, including fresh vegetables, fruits, green grass and nutritious laddus from Jaipur.

These laddus, enriched with soybean, triphala, fenugreek, oats, sesame and essential minerals, ensured a balanced diet for the animals.

JDJC was represented by its founder, Kokila Ramesh Golecha, along with President Lakshmi Parlecha, Secretary Sapna Bandhmutha, Treasurer Pinky Vedmutha, Vice-President Uma Bafna and Vice-Secretary Anju Palrecha. The Mysore Pinjrapole Society's representatives included President Sumatilalji Pagariya, Secretary Vinod Kabiya and other members.

Roopanagar residents embrace sustainable waste management

Mysuru, June 17 (BCT)- Promoting sustainable living through conscious waste management, a 'home composting' workshop was held recently at the Namma Roopanagara Residents Welfare Association (NRRWA) Office in Roopanagar.

The programme, organised by NRRWA in association with Dostbin Solutions Private Ltd., a manufacturer of composting bins, aimed to encourage residents to manage kitchen waste responsibly at home.

Nearly 80 residents from Roopanagar and neighbouring layouts participated. The core team from Dostbin Solutions, led by Shumail Ali Khan, demonstrated their innovative and award-winning composting bin and explained the composting process through a detailed presentation. Participants also gained hands-on experience in using the bins.

NRRWA President Narasimha Murthy presided. Director Raghu Srinivasan welcomed while Director Uma Peshwa compered.

Association Secretary K.S. Somayaji expressed hope that the workshop would motivate more households to start composting kitchen waste, thereby reducing the dependency on garbage collectors.

Dr. Shushma Appaiah proposed a vote of thanks, appreciating the enthusiastic participation of residents and the efforts of the Dostbin team.

The workshop concluded on a positive note, empowering residents with practical knowledge and skills to adopt sustainable waste management practices at home.

Mobile-based attendance in all Govt. health institutions from July 1

Mysuru, June 17 (SPN&DM)- In an initiative aimed at ensuring accurate, secure and real time check-ins, boosting productivity and efficiency, the Health and Family Welfare Department will be introducing mobile-based attendance systems for its employees at all State-run Hospitals and other health institutions from July 1. This system will use Aadhaar-enabled face authentication, enabling attendance tracking across more than 12,000 institutions without the need for physical infrastructure, according to an order by Dept. Under-Secretary (Services-1).

NEWS BRIEFS

Free Skill Training at RUDSETI

The Rural Development and Self Employment Training Institute (RUDSETI), Mysuru, will be conducting Skill Training Programme in Krishi Udyami and Dairy Farming at its premises in Hinkal from June 18 to 30. The training is free of cost including boarding and lodging. Candidates aged between 18 and 45 years, who can read and write in Kannada, are eligible to apply. Preference will be given to rural BPL candidates. Interested candidates must apply with mobile number, photocopies of Aadhaar card and Ration card. Candidates will be selected based on direct interview. For further details, contact Ph: 0821-2519663 or Mob: 97404-30061 or 94498-60466, according to a press release from the RUDSETI.

CESC public contact meeting

The Chamundeshwari Electricity Supply Corporation (CESC), V.V. Mohalla Division, will hold a public contact meeting at its Sub-Divisional offices on June 18 and 19. The schedule is as follows — **June 18:** At Hootagalli Sub-Divisional office at 11 am and at V.V. Mohalla Sub-Divisional office at 3 pm; **June 19:** At Kuvempunagar Sub-Divisional office at 11 am and at Ramakrishnanagar Sub-Divisional office at 3 pm. The members of the public can attend the meeting and submit their complaints/ grievances, if any, in writing, according to the Executive Engineer (EE), CESC, V.V. Mohalla Division.

Diploma admission: Deadline extended

JSS Polytechnic for the Differently Abled (JSS PDA), JSS Technical Institutions Campus, Manasagangothri, Mysuru, has extended the deadline for admission (at the National level) of eligible SSLC or equivalent exam passed physically disabled students (boys and girls) to three-year Diploma courses, to June 23. The admission is open to aided Diploma courses such as Architecture Assistantship, Commercial Practise and Computer Science & Engineering and unaided Diploma courses in Jewellery Design & Technology, Electronics & Communication Engineering, Computer Applications (for the visually impaired), Apparel Design & Fabrication Technology, Electrical Engineering and Electric Vehicle Technology. Separate hostel facilities are available for both boys and girls. For details on application and fee, e-mail to: ***www.jsspda.org*** or call Mob: 98446-44937, according to a press release from the Principal of JSS Polytechnic for the Differently Abled.

Constable in Police net after honey trap

Woman and accomplices attempt to extort Rs. 10 lakh from Periyapatna cloth merchant

Mysuru, June 17 (BLU&KS)- A cloth merchant was allegedly honey-trapped and an attempt was made to extort Rs. 10 lakh from him in Periyapatna taluk under Bylakuppe Police limits.

Shivanna

Shivanna, a Police Constable attached to the Hunsur Rural Police Station, has been arrested in this connection. The woman, who honey-trapped the merchant, has absconded along with her accomplices. The victim has been identified as Dinesh Kumar, a resident of Kampalapura in Periyapatna taluk, who runs Pooja Fashion, a garment shop.

On June 11, a woman, aged about 23, visited his shop and purchased leggings and a top. She then told Dinesh that she was interested in buying new designs and asked for his mobile number, saying she would contact him later.

Trap laid

The next day, the woman sent a WhatsApp message to Dinesh. Since the message came from an unknown number, Dinesh did not respond immediately. The following day, he replied to the number, asking who it was, to which the woman responded, reminding him that she had visited his shop and enquired about new designs.

Subsequently, the woman began messaging Dinesh frequently and he responded. She started sharing her photos on WhatsApp and gradually lured him into her trap.

On June 14, around 3.30 pm, the woman called Dinesh on WhatsApp, telling him that she was alone at her relative's house in Maradiyuru village. She shared her location and asked him to come there.

Dinesh, deciding to meet her, reached the location around 4.45 pm. The woman met him near his car and took him inside the house, saying they could spend time at her relative's place.

Inside, she sat next to Dinesh, spoke to him affectionately, confessed that she liked him and hugged him. She then pretended to lock the door but merely closed it without latching it.

After some time, they heard banging on the door. Three men barged in, dragged Dinesh out of the room and assaulted him brutally. They stripped him partially, forced him to stand next to the woman, clicked photos and recorded videos.

Cop Shivanna's entry

A few minutes later, Constable Shivanna arrived at the house along with one Murthy from Maakanahallipalya. They demanded Rs. 10 lakh from Dinesh to release him, threatening to upload the compromising photos and videos on social media and to assault him further if he refused.

Fearing humiliation, Dinesh called his brother, Mahendra Chowdhary, and asked him to pay Rs. 10 lakh to Constable Shivanna. Sensing that something was wrong when his brother suddenly asked for such a large sum, Mahendra, along with his friend Mahesh, went to the Periyapatna Police Station and complained.

Acting swiftly, the Periyapatna Inspector called Dinesh using Mahendra's mobile phone and instructed him to hand over the phone to the people holding him captive. When one of the miscreants answered the call, the Inspector identified himself and warned them to release Dinesh immediately or face serious consequences.

Fearing arrest, the accused dropped Dinesh near Bylakuppe at around 1.15 am and fled the spot. Dinesh then called Mahendra to pick him up and together they went to the Bylakuppe Police Station to lodge a complaint.

Bylakuppe Police have registered a case, arrested Constable Shivanna and produced him before a Court, which remanded him to Judicial Custody. A search has been launched to nab the woman and other accomplices involved in the racket.

Homestay used for honey trap

The miscreants used a homestay accommodation to honey-trap Dinesh Kumar. One Madan had constructed a homestay at Maradiyuru village but had not rented it out until now.

Constable Shivanna approached Madan and told him that he needed the homestay as his friend and family members were coming on a tour. Trusting the Constable, Madan handed over the keys to Shivanna, who, along with the other accused, used the homestay to carry out the honey trap.

"There is information about the involvement of three persons in honey-trapping the cloth merchant. Investigation is underway and details about the other accused will emerge during interrogation," said Additional Superintendent of Police L. Nagesh.

Report against Cop Shivanna sent to SP

A report on Constable Shivanna, also known as 'Police Shivanna,' detailing his involvement in the honey-trapping racket, has been submitted to Mysuru Superintendent of Police (SP) N. Vishnuvardhana by the Bylakuppe Police.

Shivanna is currently in Judicial Custody. Since he is a serving Police Constable, the Department is expected to initiate disciplinary action against him. There have been several instances where Police personnel involved in such offences have been suspended or dismissed from service.

Now, with Constable Shivanna's involvement in this honey-trapping case confirmed, it remains to be seen what Departmental action will be taken against him.

House burgled near Yelwal

Mysuru, June 17 (KS)- Burglars, who broke into a house near Yelwal, have decamped with gold and cash from the house.

The burglary took place at the house of Sheelamani, located at Rajadhani-2 Layout in Ratnahalli village limits and the burglars have made away with a gold chain, earrings and other jewellery worth about Rs. 3.50 lakh and Rs. 500 cash.

Sheelamani's husband serves in Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) at Karwar and she is residing with her two children in the house.

On Saturday, she went to her parents' house in Hassan and the next day, her son called her and informed her about the door being broken.

Sheelamani, who rushed back, inspected the house only to find the gold jewellery and cash stolen and lodged a complaint at Yelwal Police Station.

Woman killed in hit-and-run case

Mysuru, June 17 (KS)- An elderly woman, who was crossing the road, was killed when an unidentified vehicle hit her on Saturday night at Kalyanagiri in city and sped away.

The deceased has been identified as P. Rani (70), a resident of KSCB Colony in Kalyanagiri and the Police are on a lookout for the killer vehicle.

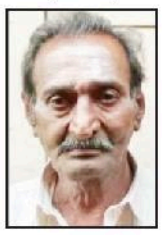
On Saturday at about 7.15 pm, Rani was crossing Dr. Rajkumar Road when the speeding unidentified vehicle, which was proceeding from BSNL Junction side towards Triveni Circle, hit the elderly woman resulting in her sustaining serious injuries. The public rushed her to a private hospital and later shifted to K.R. Hospital, where the woman succumbed to injuries.

Witnesses said that the unidentified vehicle which hit the woman resembled an autorickshaw and the driver sped away soon after the accident. A case has been registered at Siddarthanagar Traffic Police Station.

Obituary

Jogegowda

Mysuru, June 17- Jogegowda (Jogappa), a resident of Paduvarahalli 6th Main, 1st Cross, passed away on Friday in city. He was 70.



He leaves behind his wife, sons Ramesh Gowda, Silky Gowda and Prabha Gowda and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were held at Gokulam Burial Grounds, according to family sources.

The Red DUMP

- **Frustrated farmers throw loads of ripened tomatoes in Bandipalya APMC Yard as demand falls...**
- **Early rains to blame**

Mysuru, June 17 (PM&BS)- The tomato, which once brought a windfall for farmers, has now dented the fortunes of the agrarian community.

Aggrieved farmers are dumping truckloads of tomatoes, especially the jam variety, onto streets and market yards, unable to earn any profit at present.

The Bandipalya APMC yard on Mysuru-Nanjangud Road, which receives tonnes of tomatoes and other vegetables daily, now paints a grim picture. The monsoon showers have worsened the situation by increasing soil moisture content, affecting tomato crops.

Due to intermittent rainfall, tomato plantations have been hit hard, forcing farmers to harvest only partially ripened fruits. These are harder and easier to transport in crates without sustaining damage.

Yesterday evening, the jam variety tomatoes were sold at Rs. 1,500 to Rs. 1,600 per quintal, translating to Rs. 15 to Rs. 16 per kg. Middlemen pick only quality fruits, while those damaged by pests or spoilage are rejected from the crates.

A significant share of the harvest is transported in bulk to Kerala by merchants who prefer partially ripened tomatoes to ensure a longer shelf life. Fully ripened fruits have a higher chance of rotting during transit.

Mango dominance

Adding to the woes is mango, the king of fruits, which currently dominates the market and has further reduced tomato demand. Besides farmers from Mysuru district, those from Pandavapura and areas around Krishna Raja Sagar (KRS) Dam in Mandya district have also been bringing their tomato yield to the Bandipalya APMC Market.

Earlier, damaged tomatoes at least found buyers in sauce factories. Now, with mangoes still ruling the market, the demand for mango-based products like packaged juice, flavoured sauce and ice-candy is high, further denting tomato sales.

A farmer from Pandavapura told *Star of Mysore,* "I have dumped about 660 kg of tomatoes — that's 30 boxes with each box holding 22 kg — due to the dwindling demand. I have incurred huge losses and many farmers have dumped their yield in the last two days. This may continue today and tomorrow too."

Yoga, a farmer from Nagamangala taluk, explained that whenever prices crash, farmers prefer to dump their produce rather than bear the added cost of transporting it back home, which only increases losses.

During rainfall, tomato plantations often suffer from *Chukki Roga* (leaf spot diseases) caused by fungal or bacterial pathogens, leading to defoliation and lower fruit yields. Such infected tomatoes are discarded during the sorting process. Moreover, the seasonal slump in demand for tomato sauce — which would otherwise absorb lower-grade produce — adds to the crisis.

Prices may increase

APMC Secretary Kumaraswamy said tomatoes are usually purchased in bulk by wholesalers in lots of 15 to 25 crates. On Monday (June 16), the price remained at Rs. 15 to Rs. 16 per kg but may see an increase in the coming days.

He added that tomatoes are naturally vulnerable to damage during rain.

On dry days, the chance of spoilage is low, but heavy rains cause significant damage, leading the fruits to rot and wither in the fields.

Given this distressing situation, especially for tomato growers, farmers are demanding that the State Government step in with relief measures.

For now, they can neither protect nor fully harvest their yield during rains — forced to stand by as helpless spectators while their crops perish.

Toilet in deplorable state

Mysuru, June 17 (PM&BS)- The toilet at the premises of the Wholesale Vegetables and Fruits Market at the Bandipalya APMC yard reeks of a pungent smell and remains in an unhygienic condition, causing severe inconvenience to everyone, including farmers and labourers.

The toilet, located opposite a row of stalls, is in a deplorable state due to a lack of proper maintenance. Despite this, many people continue to use it, worsening the foul odour in the area.

Although a paid toilet facility is also available, most labourers and farmers prefer the free facility. Adding to the mess are loads of dumped tomatoes that remain uncleared, turning the entire premises unsightly and unhygienic.

When these issues were brought to the notice of APMC Secretary Kumaraswamy, he assured that he would conduct a spot inspection and take appropriate action.

Bad roads haunt industrialists, workers at Hebbal Industrial Area

Mysuru, June 17 (RK&VNS)- There seems to be no relief for industrialists in Mysuru City, especially in the Hebbal Industrial Area. After having suffered owing to garbage and debris issues, the industrialists are now facing the brunt of bad roads. Most of the roads in Hebbal Industrial Area have not been asphalted for years, resulting in the formation of large potholes that have been posing a danger to commuters.

Every day, there are accidents resulting in two-wheeler riders suffering injuries, especially on the road leading to Automotive Axles from Damden Apartment on the Outer Ring Road (ORR), which is in a pathetic condition.

KIADB Vs Hootagalli CMC: Factory workers suffer

An industrialist in the area complained that their efforts to get the roads asphalted since the past three years had not given any results as both Hootagalli City Municipal Council (CMC) and Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board (KIADB) have been evading from their responsibility by blaming each other.

Another industrialist said, "Many nightshift workers have met with accidents as they cannot see clearly nor gauge the depth of the deep potholes. The increase in accidents since the rains has in turn increased absenteeism which has led to problems in industrial production."

"It is physical pain for the employees and financial distress for the industries in Hebbal," he added.

This being an important road that connects the Ring Road to Hebbal Industrial Area, authorities must take measures to provide good infrastructure to the industries that pay the highest taxes, said another industrialist.

Star of Mysore spoke to other industrialists, who informed that Hebbal Industrial Area, which was earlier under the control of Hootagalli CMC, was handed over to KIADB recently. While Hootagalli CMC collected taxes from the industries for the past three years, it did nothing to improve the infrastructure.

It may be recalled that KIADB recently cleared the debris and waste dumped on roads and footpaths in the Hebbal Industrial Area following an article published in the *Star of Mysore*.

Works to be taken up at Rs. 60 crore

When *Star of Mysore* contacted Hootagalli CMC Commissioner Chandrashekar, he informed that the Hootagalli CMC will be taking up road works in 24 different packages at Rs. 60 crore.

Chandrashekar

He said that the tender process for works was on the verge of completion, following which the works would commence in another 15 days.

"We will be taking up repair works on the 2.3 km stretch that connects Ring Road to Automotive Axles for Rs. 5 crore, 2 km stretch that connects Ring Road to HPCL godown passing to JK Radials plant for Rs. 4 crore, the one kilometre stretch between Bharat Institute of Oncology and Infosys at Rs. 60 lakh among others," he added.

Chandrashekar said emphasis would be given to stretches that connect the Ring Road to Automotive Axles and HPCL Godown.

Though the maintenance of Hebbal Industrial Area has been handed over to KIADB, the road works are being taken up by Hootagalli CMC since the funds were released to take up the works at the time when it managed the industrial area.

'Revoke hike in *seva* charges at Chamundi Hill temple'

Mysuru, June 17 (MTY&BS)- Days after Sri Chamundeshwari Temple Development Authority announced to introduce a special Rs. 2,000 package ticket for devotees visiting Chamundeshwari temple at Chamundi Hill during Ashada Fridays, Karnataka Sena Pade activists staged a protest in city yesterday.

Sena Pade workers led by their District Unit President Tejesh Lokesh Gowda staged the protest in front of Old Deputy Commissioner's Office condemning the decision to hike the service charges without any prior notice. The Authority is still unable to supply drinking water to hill residents, with works to lay pipeline remaining incomplete. Tourists are also deprived of adequate basic amenities. Toilet users are charged Rs. 5 and Rs. 10, which should be stopped and provide free service.

The protesters alleged that, the Government which has failed to mobilise resources to fund its Guarantee Schemes, has increased the *seva* charges arbitrarily from Rs. 300 to Rs. 550. Every hikes should be revoked, they demanded.

Halt water sports in Kabini: Advocate writes to Tribunal

Mysuru, June 17 (BLU&DM)- With the State Government granting permission for water sports activities at Kabini backwaters in H.D. Kote taluk of Mysuru district, city-based advocate V. Ravikumar has appealed to the National Green Tribunal (NGT) in New Delhi to intervene and revoke the approval.

In a letter addressed to the NGT Chairman, Ravikumar expressed concerns that water sports would disrupt the region's ecology and endanger wildlife, dense forests and aquatic life. He emphasised that the Kabini backwaters border Bandipur and Nagarahole National Parks, which are ecologically sensitive areas.

Ravikumar also pointed out that numerous unauthorised resorts have already emerged in the forests surrounding the backwaters. Instead of taking action against these encroachments, the Government has further aggravated the situation by permitting water sports — a move he called misguided given the area's fragile ecosystem.

The letter urged the National Green Tribunal to intervene in the matter and cancel the Karnataka Government's permission for water sports and adventure activities in the Kabini backwaters to protect the region's biodiversity.

Maharaja's High School Alumni Assn. vows to restore past glory

Mysuru, June 17 (BLU&DM)- Expressing deep disappointment over low admission in the over a century old Maharaja's High School, JLB Road in city, the Maharaja High School Alumni Association has unveiled a road map to rejuvenate the school.

Maharaja's High School Alumni Association President B.S. Sridhar Raje Urs (centre) addressing a press meet at Maharaja's High School library this morning as others look on.

Addressing a press meet at Maharaja's High School library this morning, the Maharaja's High School Alumni Association President B.S. Sridhar Raje Urs said that the school was initially established by Mummadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar as Maharaja Pathashala in 1833.

Expressing concern over declining admission in the school, Sridhar Raje Urs said that as a measure for increasing admission, the students will be provided free admission and books for 8th, 9th and 10th standards.

"As Alumni Association members, we are going to teach 10th standard students and make all efforts to improve pass percentage and as well as the marks earned by the students. We will take the classes after school hours at 4.30 pm, during which the students will be served coffee and biscuits. All the high scoring students will be presented prizes during the Founders Day celebration," he said.

Pointing out that Director of Primary Education B.K. Basavaraju and retired teacher Devi Prasad have voluntarily come forward for taking classes, he said that importance will also be given for extracurricular activities as it is found necessary.

Alumni Association member Prof. Venkatesh Murthy said that, all efforts will be made to enhance knowledge among the school students.

Maintaining that the Alumni members take pride in teaching students, he said that the Association has planned to bring back past glory to the school.

He called upon the parents to join hands with the Association in bringing about qualitative change and thus ensure re-writing history.

School Vice-Principal Dr. Mahesh said that, the school offers admission for both English and Kannada medium of Instruction and that there are collectively only 80 students in 8th, 9th and 10th standards.

Pointing out that some of the students are from other States, he said that the admission may be poor because of a good number of private schools that exist in the vicinity. The Maharaja's High School recorded a pass percentage of 60 in the SSLC exams this year, he added.

Former Principal Dr. C.A. Sridhar said that the school is the root of University of Mysore. Pointing out that the Maharaja's School was once known for its high quality and valued education, he said that it is unfortunate that the school admissions saw a steady decline over the past few decades in an era of cut-throat competition from private schools.

"There was a time when the school had a huge number of students, several of whom did not have space even to sit in classrooms. It is important to note that many dignitaries such as former Chief Minister D. Devaraj Urs and the city's well-known Novelist R.K. Narayan studied in this school decades ago," Sridhar said adding that all efforts will be made to improve admission.

Association Treasurer Rangaswamy and others were present at the press meet.

Fashionavya Exhibition begins in city

The spectacular Fashionavya Exhibition, curated by the esteemed Fashionista Group of Exhibitions, launched its 7th edition at Hotel Southern Star on Vinoba Road in city this morning. The two-day expo will be open between 11 am and 8 pm today and tomorrow (June 17 and 18). Seen are (from left) Kavitha Gururaj, President, Spoorthi (Ladies Wing of Builders' Association of India, Mysuru Centre), Pallavi Adarsh, Director, A. Shankara Chetty & Sons, Junoo Ahluwalia, Social Entrepreneur and Namrata Shenoy, Trustee, Diya Foundation and Founder, Diya Silk, cutting the ribbon to mark the inauguration.

Supreme Court orders release of *Thug Life* in Karnataka

Kamal Haasan

New Delhi, June 17 (Agencies)- The Supreme Court today slammed the Karnataka Government and asked it to allow the release of Kamal Haasan's Tamil film *Thug Life*, stating that it cannot allow mobs and vigilantes to take over the streets.

Expressing concerns over the "extra-judicial ban" on the screening of *Thug Life*, directed by Mani Ratnam, a Bench, comprising Justice Ujjal Bhuyan and Justice Manmohan, said the rule of law demands that any film which has a Central Board of Film Certification certificate must be released and the State has to ensure its screening.

The Bench was hearing a PIL filed by one Mahesh Reddy seeking directions to allow the screening of *Thug Life*, which was not released in Karnataka after certain groups issued threats against its screening following the remarks of Kamal Haasan, who is also one of the producers of the film, that "Kannada was born out of Tamil."

The Bench said, if Kamal Haasan has said anything inconvenient, it cannot be taken as a gospel truth and the enlightened people of Karnataka should have debated and said he was wrong.

Supreme Court has given one-day time to the Karnataka Government to apprise it about the release of the movie in the State.

Incessant rains in Kodagu

(Continued from page 1)

In response to the downpour, the Kodagu District Administration has declared a holiday for educational institutions today, Tuesday, June 17. According to an official order from the Deputy Commissioner (DC), all Anganwadis, Primary and High Schools and Pre-University Colleges will remain closed. However, the II PUC examination-3 will be conducted as per schedule.

The water level of River Cauvery at the Kushalnagar - Koppa border rose by 13 feet within a day, raising concerns across the region. Currently, 18,000 cusecs of water are being released from Harangi Dam.

The Dam authorities have opted for a balanced discharge strategy by keeping 25 percent of the reservoir empty. Though the inflow stands at 13,000 cusecs, the outflow is maintained at 18,000 cusecs to ensure a buffer. If the inflow increases and the buffer is not maintained, over 50,000 cusecs and more would need to be released, risking severe flooding in low-lying areas of Kushalnagar.

The Cauvery River is flowing at full capacity and water is passing beneath the Kanive hanging bridge, which connects Mysuru district and is rising up to the steps of the nearby Rameshwara Temple, as usual during peak monsoon. If heavy rain continues, officials warn that the area could become completely submerged.

On Monday, the Tahsildar inspected the Kanive hanging bridge. Due to rising water levels, a lock has been placed on the gate near the Rameshwara Temple to restrict tourists from approaching the riverbanks.

In Donikaadu near Benguru village, part of Cherambane Gram Panchayat in Bhagamandala Hobli, floodwaters have arrived, forcing locals to commute by boats.

The Madikeri Taluk Tahsildar visited the flood-hit area and issued necessary instructions. Revenue Inspectors and village administrative officers from Bhagamandala Hobli are monitoring the situation on-site.

As of 8:30 am today, Kodagu recorded an average of 75.67 mm of rainfall in the past 24 hours, compared to 8.36 mm on the same day last year. Total rainfall since January has reached 989.51 mm, nearly double the 496.42 mm recorded during the same period last year.

Taluk-wise rainfall details (today vs same day last year/ total since January Vs last year): Madikeri Taluk: 122.45 mm (9.57 mm); total 1505.52 mm (688.64 mm); **Virajpet Taluk:** 72.10 mm (1.90 mm); total 1025.15 mm (437.75 mm); **Ponnampet Taluk:** 71.07 mm (0.20 mm); total 902.10 mm (465.14 mm); **Somwarpet Taluk:** 74.35 mm (3.05 mm); total 886.52 mm (413.58 mm); **Kushalnagar Taluk:** 38.40 mm (27.10 mm); total 628.24 mm (477.00 mm)

Rainfall data across Hoblis (in mm): Madikeri Kasaba – 90, Napoklu – 88.80, Sampaje – 116, Bhagamandala – 195, Virajpet – 77.20, Ammathi – 67, Hudikeri – 87.60, Srimangala – 56.60, Ponnampet – 80, Balale – 60.09, Somwarpet – 74, Shanthalli – 140, Shanivarasanthe – 48, Kodlipet – 35.40, Kushalnagar – 24.80, Suntikoppa – 52.

Cars seized for tax evasion

(Continued from page 1)

RTO Ramachandra mentioned that out of five seized vehicles, one Mercedes-Benz and a Rolls-Royce were released after the owners paid a total of 1.78 crore tax yesterday.

"We have also released Porsche and Audi Q4 after their owners promised to pay the tax today. Meanwhile, we have retained the other Mercedes-Benz as we had doubts over its registration," he added.

Bike taxis banned in State

RTO (West) C.N. Ramachandra said the Department would be conducting a crackdown on bike taxis following the Karnataka High Court's directives to suspend operations.

The ban came into effect yesterday following the end of the 12-week deadline given by the High Court to suspend the operations.

The High Court Division Bench last Friday refused to stay an earlier Single-Judge order suspending bike taxi services in the State. The Division Bench, comprising Acting Chief Justice V. Kameshwar Rao and Justice Sreenivas Harish Kumar, was hearing the appeals filed by Uber India Systems Pvt. Ltd, ANI Technologies Pvt. Ltd (that operates Ola) and Roppen Transportation Services Pvt. Ltd (that operates Rapido), among others.

The High Court Single-Judge Bench had ruled that services like bike taxis cannot operate until the State Government notifies specific rules and guidelines under the Motor Vehicle Act.

Meanwhile, the RTO officials in Bengaluru seized more than 100 two-wheelers, after finding aggregators were flouting the directives of the High Court.

One Health, One Planet

A New Vision for Public Health

Dr. Vijay V. Yeldandi, M.D., FACP, FCCP, FIDSA, an educator and Infectious Diseases Clinician with a special interest in Transplantation and Public Health, was in Mysuru recently to participate in the 9th edition of HIVe Mysuru 2025, a conference on HIV, TB and Other Infectious Diseases. The conference was hosted by Asha Kirana Charitable Trust. Dr. Yeldandi is board-certified in Infectious Diseases (ABIM, USA) and is currently a Clinical Professor of Medicine and Surgery at the University of Illinois in Chicago. For over three decades, Dr. Yeldandi has been managing patients with autoimmune and autoinflammatory disorders, those who have undergone transplantation, as well as individuals with HIV and other infections. His current work focuses on participatory action research promoting the 'One Health, One Planet' concepts.

He is the Founder and Director of GYD Diagnostics and Clinics, Suvarna Swasthya Research Centre and the International Centre for Human Health Advancement. On behalf of *Star of Mysore*, **Sujata Rajpal** spoke to him. Excerpts...

Dr. Vijay V. Yeldandi

Star of Mysore (SOM): You have worked with HIV patients for over 40 years across India and United States. Despite widespread awareness and medical advances, why does stigma around HIV still persist?

Dr. Yeldandi: It's not the fear of death, but the fear of losing control over life that fuels stigma. With HIV, the stigma is worsened due to its association with sexual transmission. People often react with judgement, assuming it's the result of bad behaviour or bad *karma.* This fear and judgement create isolation. And it's not just HIV, tuberculosis (TB) patients too face similar stigma. TB can be cured with the right treatment. HIV, although not curable yet, is manageable.

With antiretroviral therapy (ART), people with HIV can live long, healthy lives with autonomy and dignity. We can even prevent mother-to-child transmission. To achieve this, we need a humane, multifaceted approach and not just medical interventions, for effective healthcare.

SOM: What is the mission of SHARE India, the organisation you are associated with?

Dr. Yeldandi: SHARE India is a not-for-profit scientific and industrial research organisation. We've collaborated with the National AIDS Control Organisation since 2005, with support from the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention. Our work spans HIV, tuberculosis, COVID-19, Hepatitis B and C, and cancer screening. We have partnered with multiple State governments to strengthen public health systems and training. Our mission is to support evidence-based and people-centred care.

> "Healthcare must be humane, inclusive and participatory. Whether it's HIV, TB, COVID or chronic illness, we must empower people and protect our planet. Every person deserves to live with dignity, autonomy and purpose. That is the heart of good medicine."
>
> **— Dr. Vijay V. Yeldandi**

SOM: What do you mean by 'One Health, One Planet,' which you emphasised in your talk?

Dr. Yeldandi: One Health, One Planet signifies the interconnectedness of well-being across humans, animals and the environment. For example, 95 percentage of rabies deaths in India are from dog bites, mostly from stray dogs. To control rabies, we must vaccinate dogs and manage their population humanely. That also means keeping our environment clean and avoiding feeding strays, as increased food availability leads to population growth. Many programmes exist to control stray dog populations, but they often fail due to lack of accountability.

'One Planet' emphasises our responsibility to preserve the environment for future generations. Pollution, microplastics and water contamination are urgent issues. We cannot treat Earth as expendable.

A sustainable, restorative approach is essential for long-term well-being. Healthcare must go beyond disease survival, it must empower individuals to thrive. Whether it's HIV, TB, COVID-19 or chronic illness, our systems must be humane, inclusive and participatory.

SOM: How does the concept of Salutogenesis apply to someone with a chronic condition or disability?

Dr. Yeldandi: Health isn't just the absence of disease; it's the ability to meet life's demands. Salutogenesis, introduced by Israeli physician Aaron Antonovsky, is about focusing on what creates health rather than what causes disease. He studied women who survived Nazi concentration camps and found that about 30% of them led fulfilling lives afterward. What set them apart was self-awareness, strong coping mechanisms, and access to support systems.

The essence of healthcare is not just about treating illness, but about enabling people to live a purposeful life. I am a polio survivor myself and use braces and crutches to walk. By conventional definitions, I wouldn't be considered healthy but through the lens of Salutogenesis, I live a life of purpose, autonomy and dignity.

SOM: You have done decades of work on immune system disorders. Why are most autoimmune diseases still incurable?

Dr. Yeldandi: Our understanding of the immune system has advanced tremendously, but autoimmune diseases remain incredibly complex. These conditions involve the body attacking itself, and we still don't fully understand why this happens in every case. That makes finding a cure challenging. However, we're getting better at managing these conditions and even manipulating the immune system, for instance, in organ transplants, where we suppress immunity to prevent rejection. Many of these advance stem from research on HIV, which have taught us a great deal about immunology.

SOM: There has been an ongoing debate about COVID-19 vaccine risks, especially regarding heart issues. Is this concern valid?

Dr. Yeldandi: No vaccine is entirely without risk. The mRNA COVID-19 vaccines have, in rare cases, caused myocarditis (inflammation of the heart muscles) especially in adolescent boys. Most of these cases recover completely, though unfortunately, some do not.

However, the risks from COVID itself — lung damage, inflammatory syndromes, death, are far greater. So, vaccination remains the better option. Informed consent is essential and trust must be earned through honesty and respect, not fear or pressure. The way forward is through awareness, not alarmism ■

City streets abuzz as jamun joins mango season frenzy

Jamun vendors near Old RMC Fruit Market (pic. left) and opposite Crawford Hall in city.

Mysuru, June 17 (MK&BCT)- With the arrival of the mango season, Mysuru's bustling markets are once again alive with the fragrance of summer's favourite fruit. However, this year, the 'black beauty' — the Java plum, locally known as Jambu Nerale or Jamun — is steadily stealing the spotlight.

Jamun-laden bicycles and pushcarts are now a common sight at popular spots such as Bamboo Bazaar's Old RMC Fruit Market, M.G. Road Market, Devaraja Market, Mandi Mohalla, Agrahara Market and on busy stretches like Yadavagiri near Akashvani, Kalidasa Road at Panchavati Circle, Chamaraja Double Road, Crawford Hall Road and Kuvempunagar Main Road.

While mangoes initially dominated the fruit stalls, jamun's unique flavour, medicinal value and striking deep purple hue have sparked a seasonal craze across the city's markets.

To meet growing demand, these fruits arrive daily from Bengaluru, Hunsur, H.D. Kote, T. Narasipur, Rammanahalli and Bannur. The bigger and juicier varieties come from Kolar, Chintamani, Andhra Pradesh, Bagepalli and other areas.

According to vendors, jamun's popularity stems from its taste and numerous health benefits. Rich in antioxidants and low in calories, jamun aids diabetes management, improves digestion, boosts immunity, helps control blood pressure and is even used in traditional medicines.

"Despite the price hike this year due to lower yield, customers don't mind paying more for premium-quality jamun," said S. Mahadev, President of the Devaraja Market Traders' Association. This season, prices have climbed to Rs. 300 to Rs. 350 per kg, up from last year's Rs. 250 to Rs. 300 per kg.

The wholesale rates at the APMC Market are lighter on the pockets as per kg of the smaller variety of fruits costs Rs. 60 and the bigger varieties are priced between Rs. 80 and Rs. 100.

Native to India, the Java plum tree (Syzygiumcumini) typically flowers between February and March, with fruits forming in April-May and ripening by June-July. Currently, jamun carts tempt passersby of all ages to stop and buy, with cherries and jamun arranged invitingly for a quick snack.

Mango growers, dealers face bitter season as prices plummet

Mysuru, June 17 (BLU&TRR)- Mango, often hailed as the 'King of Fruits' for its sweetness, has turned bitter for growers and wholesale dealers this season.

A sudden slump in prices has left contractors — who purchased mangoes in bulk before the harvest — in distress.

Initially, mango prices were favourable, bringing smiles to sellers. However, the abrupt market crash has shocked growers, many of whom are leaving fruits on trees, hoping for a price revival. They fear that harvesting and selling now may not even cover transportation costs. Incessant monsoon rains have worsened the situation, as mangoes left on trees risk rotting and harvested fruits have a short shelf life.

Wholesale dealers, known as contractors, typically buy entire mango orchards from farmers during December-January. The unexpected price drop has hit them hard. Key varieties have seen sharp declines: Rasapuri: Fell from Rs. 120/kg to Rs. 80/kg, Badami: Dropped from Rs. 140/kg to Rs. 100/kg, Mallika: Reduced by Rs. 40 from Rs. 140/kg to Rs. 100/kg and Totapuri: Decreased by Rs. 10 (from Rs. 50/kg to Rs. 40/kg).

Karnataka cultivates mangoes across 1.40 lakh hectares, yielding 10-11 lakh tons annually. While about 4 lakh tonnes are consumed fresh, the rest are processed into juices, jams and pickles.

Though Mysuru's market remains relatively stable, farmers in other regions are devastated and demand Government intervention, including a Minimum Support Price (MSP) for mangoes. Responding to the crisis, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has written to Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, urging the declaration of a MSP for mangoes.

While growers and contractors grapple with losses, consumers are seizing the opportunity, flocking to vendors to buy their favourite varieties at lower prices.

MYSORE RACES 2025

(By Our Racing Correspondent)

VANDHIYATHEVAN for Chevalier Trophy

Mysuru, June 17- Following are the selections for the 4th day of Mysore Summer Races to be held here on Wednesday — June 18, 2025:

1.	1.30 PM	**THE KAGINELE PLATE**
		1600 mts. - rated 00 to 25
		1. AGAINST ALL ODDS 2. THE ANGEL POWER
2.	2.00 PM	**THE TAKSHASHILA PLATE - DIV. II**
		1200 mts. - rated 20 to 45
		1. CODE OF HONOUR 2. THE GOLDEN SUNRISE
3.	2.30 PM	**THE SOMWARPET PLATE - DIV. II**
		1100 mts. - rated 20 to 45
		1. SAMARTH 2. SENGOL
4.	3.00 PM	**THE TAKSHASHILA PLATE - DIV. I**
		1200 mts. - rated 20 to 45
		1. NATURAL LIGHT 2. CHOICE
5.	3.30 PM	**THE SOMWARPET PLATE - DIV. I**
		1100 mts. - rated 20 to 45
		1. MAGICAL BAY 2. FALCON FURY
6.	4.00 PM	**THE CHEVALIER TROPHY**
		1400 mts. - rated 40 to 65
		1. VANDHIYATHEVAN 2. MYSTIC DIVINE
7.	4.30 PM	**THE SUTLEJ PLATE**
		1600 mts. - rated 60 and above
		1. RISE AND REIGN 2. WINTER AGENDA
8.	5.00 PM	**THE LOYAL PRINCE PLATE**
		1200 mts. - rated 40 to 65
		1. ABSOLUTECHALLENGER 2. GRACE

DAY'S BEST: *CODE OF HONOUR*

DOUBLE: *1. SAMARTH 2. RISE AND REIGN*

JACKPOT: *4, 5, 6, 7, 8* ***MINI JACKPOT:*** *5, 6, 7, 8*

I TREBLE: *1, 2, 3* ***II TREBLE:*** *3, 4, 5* ***III TREBLE:*** *6, 7, 8*

EXACTAS: *1 to 8*

—Tipster PGC

WORD OF THE DAY

Garrulous

Pronunciation: GAIR-uh-lus (adjective).
Meaning: Someone described as garrulous is very talkative. When garrulous is used to describe a piece of language (such as a speech), it means "containing many and often too many words; wordy."
Origin: We all know someone who blabs, gabs, or even confabs a little longer than necessary. You might refer to such a person as a chatty Cathy, but "garrulous Gary" would also make a perfectly apt nom de guerre. Garrulous, after all, is a 17th century Latin borrowing that has its origin in garrīre, meaning "to chatter, talk rapidly." That Latin root is probably imitative in origin—that is, it was coined to imitate what it refers to. English has a number of words that are imitative in origin, among them several others that can describe the actions of that one friend who does all the talking, such as babble and chatter."
Example:"Verbosity [in Academy Awards acceptance speeches] became more of a problem with the advent of television coverage in the 1950s. As millions of viewers watched from around the world, actors and directors—also cinematographers, sound editors and costume designers—often lingered in the spotlight. The academy eventually instituted a 45-second time limit and directed the orchestra to play garrulous winners off stage." — David Wharton, The Los Angeles Times, 8 Mar. 2024.

THE ODD WORD

Mabble

To wrap up.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Method to my madness

Meaning: This funny phrase 'Method to my madness' means that there is often a reason behind someone's mysterious behaviour.
Origin: This phrase was first used in William Shakespeare's Hamlet, written sometime between 1599 and 1601. The original phrase appears in Act II Scene 2 and reads as follows: Though this be madness, yet there is method in 't. It's spoken by Polonius to himself while considering Hamlet's previous lines of dialogue.
Example: "At the start of his presentation, it seemed that he's out of his mind, but when he finished, we saw that there's method in his madness."

QUOTE BOX

I can calculate the motion of heavenly bodies but not the madness of people. **— Isaac Newton**

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

Answer: One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.

CROSS WORD

ACROSS:

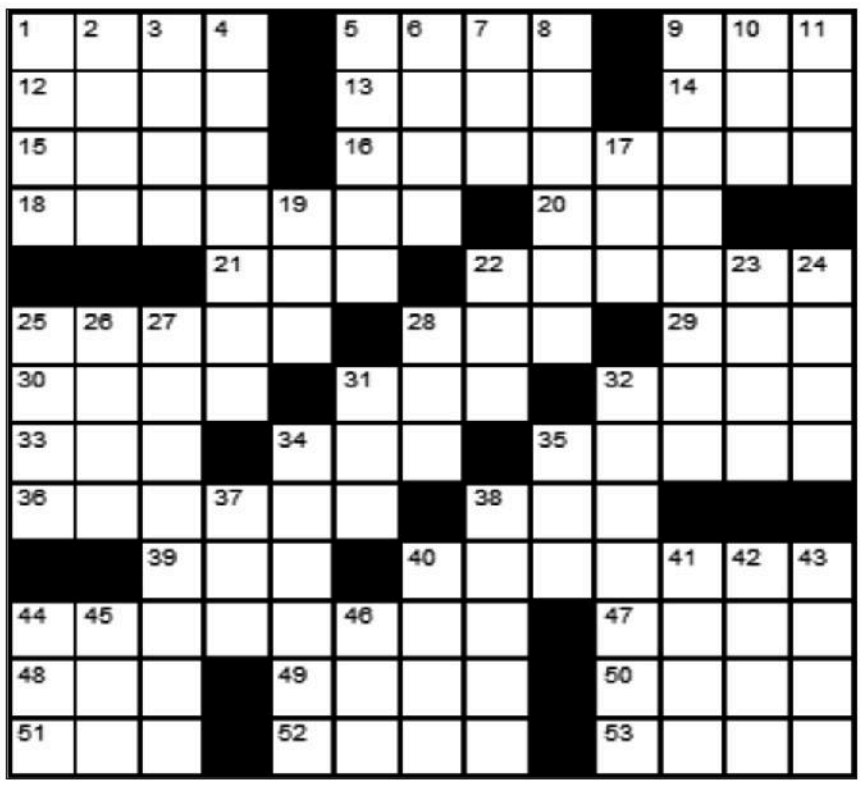
1 Local name (for one who cannot die)
5 South Africa's Hashim ____
9 Only's partner
12 Grease - "bule" anagram?
13 This is performed by two people
14 Snare
15 Fairy tale beginning
16 Skeptic or doubter
18 Abducts, seizes or carries away
20 Note of the musical scale
21 Small child
22 Court star Stefan
25 Point out resemblance to
28 Performance Mgmnt. Sys.
29 America Online, abbr.
30 East European river
31 Water in France
32 Small arachnid
33 Scottish river
34 Hear a court case
35 Nobel laureate ___ Curie
36 Weaken
38 Golfer's score
39 Sys. and Research Centre
40 Shown with a soft radiance?
44 Childish
47 Imitation of a fanfare (2-2)
48 Promissory note
49 Operatic song
50 Sped - "hide" anagram?
51 Big Blue
52 Boletus mushrooms
53 Taverns

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

D	E	A	F	■	I	A	F	■	F	R	E	E
I	N	T	I	F	A	D	A	■	R	O	O	M
P	O	N	D	■	N	U	T	R	I	F	N	T
S	L	O	G	S	■	L	E	A	D	■	■	■
■	■	■	E	A	S	T	■	G	A	M	U	T
■	I	S	T	L	E	■	G	■	Y	F	T	I
F	R	O	■	T	W	E	E	D	■	I	A	M
G	A	N	G	■	S	■	M	Y	R	R	H	■
S	Q	U	A	W	■	I	S	E	E	■	■	■
■	■	■	S	O	O	N	■	D	W	E	L	L
C	A	N	B	E	R	R	A	■	A	L	A	E
A	I	D	A	■	S	E	N	O	R	I	T	A
S	T	A	G	■	O	D	D	■	D	E	E	P

DOWN

1 Bollywood's and TV's ___ Nath
2 Indian sage or wise man
3 Passing grades
4 Come in again? (2-5)
5 Alter to suit
6 Drinking cups
7 Cricket great Sir ____ Hutton
8 In disagreement or conflict - like bookies? (2,4)
9 Being broadcast ? (2,3,3)
10 Indonesia's earlier name
11 Commonly used abbreviation for "Et cetera"
17 To catch breath when weeping
19 Activity on Node, abbr.
22 Large bird
23 Thin Indian bread, should we say
24 Happy song
25 Ebrahim ___ was overthrown by Baber
26 The same, in Latin
27 Says nothing? (5,3)
28 Give money to
31 Go wrong
32 Language of Maharashtra
34 Bookie's signalling system (3-3)
35 Ms. West of Hollywood fame?
37 Constellation next to Scorpius
38 Entreaties
40 Clench
41 Chief
42 Biblical garden
43 Fathers
44 Three for the Roman
45 Unruly crowd
46 Abstract noun suffix



SUDOKU

		9			3			2
		2			4		3	
	4			2		8		
8			4		5	2		
				7				
		1	9		2			7
		7		4			1	
	5		6			7		
4			5			6		

Answer to previous puzzle

9	6	8	1	5	4	3	2	7
5	4	1	7	3	2	8	9	6
3	7	2	8	9	6	1	4	5
7	5	6	9	1	8	2	3	4
2	1	4	6	7	3	5	8	9
8	3	9	2	4	5	6	7	1
1	8	5	4	2	9	7	6	3
4	2	3	5	6	7	9	1	8
6	9	7	3	8	1	4	5	2

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

UKMX PSUCA HSU VGYA PU DGZM WYAGPMX

OGK AFAY GOSZAFA WYAGPMX.

TODAY'S CLUE: H EQUALS W

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: People who have time to burn usually spend it with someone who hasn't.

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Balaji Theatre **Mob: 98863-25207**
Housefull 5 (H) - 3 Shows

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How To Train Your Dragon (E-3D)	(S-1)	11 am, 1.45 pm, 4.30 pm 7.10 pm, 9.55 pm
From The World of Johnwick Ballerina (E)	(S-2)	11 am, 7.15 pm, 10 pm
Edagaiye Apaghatakke Karana (K)	(S-2)	1.45 pm, 4.30 pm
Maadeva (K)	(S-3)	10.10 am, 4.15 pm 7 pm, 9.50 pm
Mersal (Ta)	(S-3)	1 pm
Pudhupettai (Ta)	(S-4)	12.45 pm
Housefull 5A (H)	(S-4)	4.05 pm, 7.15 pm 10.30 pm

MYSURU VISION CINEMAS — Ph: 0821 - 2973519

Edagaiye Apaghatakke Karana (K)	(S-1)	1.45 pm, 4.25 pm, 6.50 pm
Maadeva (K)	(S-1)	9.15 pm
	(S-2)	1.15 pm, 4.30 pm, 7.30 pm
Yuddhakaanda - Chapter 2 (K)	(S-3)	6.50 pm
Housefull 5A (H)	(S-4)	1.15 pm, 4.30 pm, 7.45 pm

PVR CINEMAS — 4K Dolby 7.1

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How To Train Your Dragon (E-3D)	:	9 am, 11.30 am, 1.45 pm 5 pm 7.15 pm, 10.30 pm
Mission: Impossible - The Final Reckoning (E)	:	9.25 am, 3.40 pm
From The World of John Wick: Ballerina (E)	:	9.30 am, 11 am, 2.15 pm 4.30 pm, 7.45 pm, 10 pm
From The World of John Wick: Ballerina (H)	:	9.30 pm
Edagaiye Apaghatakke Karana (K)	:	10.25 am, 1 pm, 6.55 pm
Housefull 5A (H)	:	10.25 am, 12.15 pm, 3.35 pm 6.55 pm, 10.15 pm
Pa...Pa...(O Naanna) (Te)	:	12.55 pm
Materialists (E)	:	1.45 pm, 4.20 pm, 9.30 pm
Sanju Weds Geetha 2 (K)	:	3.35 pm
Maadeva (K)	:	6.25 pm
Demon Slayer: Mugen Train (Japanese)	:	7.10 pm
Final Destination Bloodlines (E)	:	9.45 pm

1st Floor, Garuda Mall. Mob: 88009 00009

How To Train Your Dragon (E-3D)	:	9 am, 11 am, 2.15 pm 4.30 pm, 7.45 pm, 10 pm
From The World of John Wick: Ballerina (E)	:	9.30 am, 11.30 am, 1.45 pm 5 pm, 7.15 pm, 10.30 pm
Housefull 5A (H)	:	10.10 am, 12.15 pm, 4.20 pm 6.10 pm, 10.15 pm
Trailers Screening Show (Multi Language)	:	10.30 am
Maadeva (K)	:	1.30 pm
Edagaiye Apaghatakke Karana (K)	:	3.35 pm, 7.40 pm, 9.30 pm

INOX — LIVE the MOVIE

Mall of Mysore - Mob: 78299-99465

How To Train Your Dragon (E-3D)	:	9 am, 11.30 am, 2.15 pm 5 pm, 7.45 pm, 10.30 pm
Edagaiye Apaghatakke Karana (K)	:	9.20 am, 1.25 pm, 9.40 pm
Housefull 5A	:	10 am, 11.45 am, 3.10 pm 6.35 pm, 10 pm
From The World of John Wick: Ballerina (H)	:	11.20 am, 6.55 pm
From The World of John Wick: Ballerina (E)	:	2.05 pm, 4.50 pm 7.35 pm, 10.20 pm
Sanju Weds Geetha 2 (K)	:	4.05 pm

INOX Centro Mysore - Ph: 0821-4283555

Housefull 5 (H)	:	8.45 am, 11.55 am, 3.20 pm 6.45 pm, 10.10 pm
How To Train Your Dragon (E-3D)	:	8.50 am, 11.20 am, 2.05 pm 4.50 pm, 7.35 pm, 10.20 pm
From The World of John Wick: Ballerina (E)	:	9 am, 11.30 am, 2.15 pm 5 pm, 7.45 pm, 10.30 pm
From The World of John Wick: Ballerina (H)	:	4.15 pm
Edagaiye Apaghatakke Karana (K)	:	10.45 am, 7 pm
Maadeva (K)	:	1.25 pm
Ronth (Ma)	:	9.40 pm

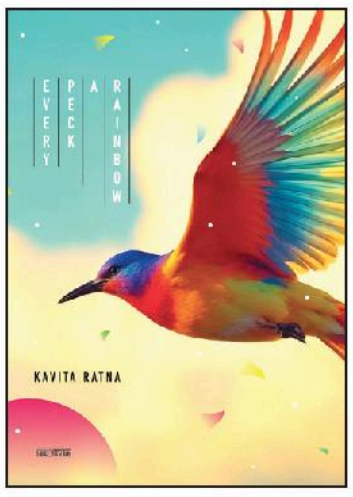
NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there is no minimum audience of 15.

Launching of Kavita Ratna's poetry collection 'Every Peck a Rainbow'

Mysuru, June 17- The Mysuru Book Clubs Charitable Trust, in collaboration with the Rathna Family, has organised a programme at Devegowda Hall of Rotary Centre, JLB Road, on June 20 at 11 am for the launch of *'Every Peck a Rainbow,'* a new poetry collection by Kavita Ratna, a poet and children's rights activist.

This special literary event will celebrate the expressive power of English poetry, with a spotlight on haiku and micro poems. It promises to be a vibrant confluence of literature, emotion and reflection — bringing together eminent literary voices and devoted readers.

This Red River Publication will be officially released by the eminent Professor Dr. H.S. Shivanna, who will also share his thoughts about the book. Celebrated academic Professor B.N. Balajee will render selected verses through a curated recitation, accompanied by his



insightful commentary.

A highlight of the event will be a conversation between the renowned author Dr. Krishna Manavalli and Kavita Ratna, offering the audience an intimate glimpse into her poetic journey.

A nominee for both the Pushcart Prize (2023) and the Touchstone Award (2024), Kavita Ratna's poetry has appeared in distinguished National and International journals, including *Presence, The Asahi Shimbun, Muse India, Poetry Pea* and *The Mamba*. Her debut collection, *'Sea Glass,'* was appreciated for its lyrical beauty and social resonance.

'Every Peck a Rainbow' is dedicated to three remarkable women — Premalatha Rathna, Vijaya Sindhuvalli and Rathna Vishwanath — making the occasion a deeply personal and heart-felt tribute.

The event will conclude with a vote of thanks by Kitty Mandanna of the Mysuru Book Clubs Charitable Trust. The programme will be anchored by Ajit Rathna.

For details, contact Kavita Ratna on Mob: 94489-90480 or Shubha Sanjay Urs on Mob: 99802-50114.

EVENTS TODAY (JUNE 17)

- **Fashionavya:** Exhibition by elite designers from across India, Southern Star, Vinoba Road, **up to 9 pm.**
- **Sabarimala Sree Ayyappa Pooja Samithi - Sree Ayyappa Swamy and Sree Guruvayurappan Temple, foot of Chamundi Hill, Mysuru:** Pratishtapana anniversary, Deeparadhana, Special Pujas with Vadyam and Athazha Puja, Temple premises, **5.30 pm to 8 pm.**

EVENTS TOMORROW (JUNE 18)

- **Sabarimala Sree Ayyappa Pooja Samithi - Sree Ayyappa Swamy and Sree Guruvayurappan Temple, foot of Chamundi Hill, Mysuru:** Pratishtapana anniversary, Ganapati Homa, Udayasthamana Puja to Sri Guruvayurappan, Navagam Panchagavyam, Ucha Puja, **5.30 am to 11.30 am;** Annadanam, **12 noon;** Deeparadhana, Special Pujas with Vadyam and Athazha Puja, Temple premises, **5.30 pm to 8 pm.**
- **Fashionavya:** Exhibition by elite designers from across India, Southern Star, Vinoba Road, **11 am to 9 pm.**

Calling economically weaker students

Mysuru, June 17- Pragathi, a non-profit organisation based in the United States, has invited applications from students belonging to economically weaker sections in India for scholarships in Engineering and Medical programmes for the academic year 2025-2026.

Students from economically disadvantaged families, who have secured a rank within 15,000 in CET or within 50,000 in NEET, may apply online at ***www.pragathi.org*** or ***www.prathammysore.org***

Shortlisted applicants will be contacted for additional information and reviews. For more information about this scholarship, contact Jagadeesh, COO, Pratham Mysore, on Mob: 99861-58340.

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